



MILEAGE FROM ABERDEEN TO:

Birmingham	95 miles
Memphis	140 miles
Jackson	170 miles
Nashville	200 miles
Atlanta	275 miles
New Orleans	320 miles
St. Louis	380 miles

For additional information about Aberdeen:
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HISTORIC Aberdeen MISSISSIPPI

AN ARCHITECTURAL DRIVING TOUR



ABERDEEN

Before You Begin Your Tour...

Aberdeen is famous for her variety of architectural styles and elements such as, stained and leaded glass windows, towers, bays, and brackets. Today, you will search for these architectural treasures. Look for the directional signs along the tour route. Begin your tour at the Magnolias. Due to heavy traffic on Commerce Street, viewing from the street can be dangerous. We suggest you park at the Magnolias and take a short walk on the sidewalk for a better view of the first three homes.



AN ARCHITECTURAL
 DRIVING TOUR

A BRIEF HISTORY OF ABERDEEN

Aberdeen has had a strong impact on the social, political, and economic development of northeast Mississippi since her beginning in 1837. Robert Gordon, Aberdeen's founder, acquired the land from the Chickasaw Indians. He laid out the town, began selling lots, and named the city for his native Aberdeen, Scotland.

In 1848, Aberdeen became the county seat of Monroe County, the largest, and for a while the only county north of Jackson. Aberdeen has been the seat of the Federal District Court serving the Northern District since 1882.

The city was important economically because of her proximity to the Tombigbee River. The Tombigbee provided cheap, fast transport for the area's cotton to ports along the coast and to the northeastern United States. Aberdeen was known for her stores and shops which carried the latest merchandise from New York and abroad. Socially speaking, many wealthy planters, lawyers, and shop-keepers lived and entertained in Aberdeen. The city remained a seat of culture



and gracious Southern hospitality due to her opera house, theater, schools, college, academies, and wonderful stores.

Politically, Aberdeen has been "where the action is" since 1848. Court was held here. Judges, lawyers, and clients flocked to Aberdeen.

Anyone running for public office made it his business to court Aberdonians.

During her entire history, Aberdeen has remained prosperous even when the nation has not. Consequently, Aberdeen boasts outstanding examples of almost every period and style of Southern architecture. Antebellum cottages and mansions; ornate Victorians with gingerbread, stained and leaded glass, towers, brackets, and bays; turn-of-the-century neoclassical homes; and 1920-1930 substantial bungalows all vie for your attention. Aberdeen's variety of architectural styles is truly her treasure.

Enjoy your tour and visit to Aberdeen. Inquire about other tours, attractions, and brochures. We hope you will return often.



ABERDEEN - AN ARCHITECTURAL DRIVING TOUR

1. The Magnolias
 732 W. Commerce St.
 ANTEBELLUM
 We begin our tour with a Greek revival mansion completed in 1850. Outbuildings of antebellum date include detached kitchen and well house. This house is open for tours
 M-F 10:00-2:00.
The next house may be viewed across the street and to the right (SW).

2. Sunset Hill/General Reuben Davis Home
 803 W. Commerce St.
 ANTEBELLUM
 A Greek revival mansion, built in 1847, has eight massive fluted Doric columns, supporting a heavy entablature across the front and halfway around the sides. Double front doors are surrounded with sidelights and a Greek key pattern. The red tin roof is original to the home.
The next house may be seen to the east of the Magnolias, on the same side of the street.

3. Prewett Place
 730 W. Commerce St.
 ANTEBELLUM
 Another Greek revival house built in 1840, with turn of the century neoclassical innovations. Above the one-story veranda, the two-story central pediment is supported by paired square columns.
Return to your car, turn left into the Magnolias Driveway. Drive two blocks. Note the parkway of Magnolias at the beginning of the second block. At the end of the second block, on the left, is the next home. Turn right onto Franklin Street, before viewing #4.

4. Watkins Jackson Home
 600 W. Commerce St.
 EARLY 20th CENTURY
 This Queen Anne with Colonial Revival overtones was built in 1905. Note the beautiful leaded and stained glass.

Franklin Street was known as "Silk Stocking Avenue" because so many fine homes were built here in the late 19th century. In the interest of space, not all are listed.
The next house is on the right, on Franklin Street.

5. Watkins Hill
 205 S. Franklin St.
 EARLY 20th CENTURY
 The original portion of the house was built in 1897 in the Queen Anne style. It was renovated in 1924 in the Prairie style.
The next house is on the right.

6. Victoria
 209 S. Franklin St.
 VICTORIAN
 An eclectic mix with the Eastlake veranda, Italianate bay and brackets, and board and batten siding. Built in 1879, the home features etched ruby glass in the double front doors. Italianate arches are supported with slender colonnettes.
The next house is on the right, in the next block.

7. Shadowlawn/Judge Eugene Octave Sykes Home
 303 S. Franklin St.
 VICTORIAN
 This Italianate home was built in 1863, with additions in 1874. The brick kitchen portion predates the Civil War. The double doors highlight the recessed front entry. Originally the home had a 3-story tower over the entry, which was later destroyed by fire.
The next house is on the right.

8. Maxey House
 305 S. Franklin St.
 EARLY 20th CENTURY
 This Victorian home was remodeled in the 1920s to the Spanish Eclectic style, which emulated the Hacienda style, popular in Florida, during that period.
The next house is on the left.

9. Buena Vista
 308 S. Franklin St.
 EARLY 20th CENTURY
 This Colonial Revival home, built in 1897, has a hipped roof, second story gallery, wraparound first story porch, and applied Colonial revival ornament, such as swags, bows, and wreaths.
The next house is on the left.

10. Steamboat
 312 S. Franklin St.
 EARLY 20th CENTURY
 Free classic Queen Anne, built in 1899, has a rounded one-story porch with columns.
The next house is on the left.

11. Painted Lady
 404 S. Franklin St.
 VICTORIAN
 This Queen Anne cottage with single style, built in 1885, features a tower, leaded stain glass panel, beaded board, sunburst carving, rounded corners, sidewall shingles, and patterned upper sash window.
The next house is on the right.

12. Silk Stocking Row
 413 S. Franklin St.
 VICTORIAN
 This Second Empire home was built in 1895. Note the ever-present Mansard roof, with its original slate, as well as the cast iron (wedding ring) surrounding the tower. This tower has become an icon for Aberdeen and her historically significant architecture.
The next house is diagonally across the street, on the corner, facing Monroe St. DO NOT TURN.

13. Harrison-Phelan Home
 519 Monroe St.
 ANTEBELLUM
 This Greek revival cottage was built in 1848. Note the elaborate sidelights flanking the double front doors.
The next house is on the right.

14. Bella Vida
 503 S. Franklin St.
 VICTORIAN
 This, and the Second Empire home next door, are two of four remaining Second Empire homes in the state of Mississippi. Built in 1883, the home is adorned with its original slate roof, a 3-story tower, many arched windows, and cast iron balcony. The home features red bohemian glass around the front door and a chimney opening.
The next house is at the end of the block, on the right.

15. Meckford
 511 S. Franklin St.
 VICTORIAN
 Highlights of this Victorian stick style home, built in 1884, include pierced corner brackets, a bay, decorative sawn frieze, and interesting window surroundings.
Turn left on High St. The next house is on the right, after you turn the corner.

16. Dreams End
 511 High St.
 EARLY 20th CENTURY
 This Colonial Revival style home was built in 1907. It features a large gabled dormer, metal shingled roof, a curved portico with ionic columns, and a door with an oval beveled glass window.
The next house is on the right.

17. Almond Home
 509 High St.
 EARLY 20th CENTURY
 This Swiss chalet style bungalow was built about 1920. It boasts accents of imbricated shingles and exposed struts.
The next house is on the right.

18. Gables
 503 High St.
 LATE VICTORIAN
 Built in 1898, this Queen Anne influenced home has twin, steeply pitched gables with circular windows. Notice the intricate decorative bargeboards in the points of the gables.
The next house is on the left. Do not turn on Long Street.

19. Wisteria
 519 S. Long St.
 LATE VICTORIAN
 An example of Queen Anne built in 1897.
The next house is on the right after the stop sign.

20. Watlington - Dugan
 407 High St.
 LATE VICTORIAN
 The central two-story section dates from the late 19th c. period. Note the fine entrance way. Additions, changing the style, date from the 1920s and are eclectic craftsman with a bungalow influence.
The next house is on the right in the next block.

21. Dunlee
 301 High St.
 ANTEBELLUM
 This Greek revival cottage was built in 1853. The front portico is supported by box columns. The double entrance doors are highlighted with clear glass sidelights. Two of the original outbuildings which still remain are the narrow smokehouse and small brick detached kitchen.
The next house is on the left.

22. Johnson-Butler
 210 High St.
 EARLY 20th CENTURY
 Built in 1921, this house has significance as an example of an Japanese bungalow with a Japanese design elements.
The next house is on the right.

23. Magnolia Hill
 205 High St.
 ANTEBELLUM
 This Greek revival, built in 1848, has a pedimented porch supported by paired columns. Visitors are greeted with double front doors with transom and sidelights.
Turn right on Hickory Street, then left at the end of the block, on Burnett. Turn left again on Meridian Street. The next house is on the left.

25. C.C. Day
 517 S. Meridian St.
 EARLY 20th CENTURY
 This house, built in 1926, is one of the most academically correct expressions of Tudor Revival style in Mississippi.
The next house is on the left.

26. Carrington
 501 S. Meridian St.
 ANTEBELLUM
 This Greek revival raised cottage was built in the 1850s. Note the portico with box columns.
The next house is on the right.

27. Gregg-Hamilton
 410 S. Meridian St.
 ANTEBELLUM/VICTORIAN
 This planter's cottage, built in 1850, has Italianate style double doors and sidelights, lozenge shaped windows in the front facade frieze, oval windows in the side gables, and scrolls above the windows.
The next house is on the left.

28. Hale House
 407 S. Meridian St.
 EARLY 20th CENTURY
 Built in 1907, this neoclassical house has details such as a wraparound front porch, rusticated block foundation, pedestals supporting fluted ionic columns, and imbricated shingles in the porch roof gable.
Turn left on Madison Street. The next house is on the left.

29. Whitfield Holmes
 109 Madison St.
 ANTEBELLUM/VICTORIAN
 This Italianate home, built in 1856, features chamfered posts, brackets, 2-story central portico, pierced spandrels, and dentilled frieze.
Turn right on S. Hickory. Note the large number of spacious bungalow style homes, dating from the first quarter of the 20th century. The next house is on the left, on the corner.

30. Hudson Pickle
 303 Hickory St.
 VICTORIAN
 This Queen Anne, built in 1895, features unique bowed front windows with fixed leaded glass transoms, side gables accented by spindled scrollwork and horizontal beaded board.
The next house is on the right in the next block.

33. Bergman Tackett
 309 W. Washington St.
 EARLY 20th CENTURY
 This Dutch Colonial, built about 1915, is an example of an architectural style not often seen in this part of the country. It features rusticated block, semi-circular portico, and a gambrel roof.
Turn left on Long Street (note the Gothic style barn at the intersection). The next house is on the left, on the corner of Long and Jefferson.

34. The Manse
 300 S. Long St.
 VICTORIAN
 Built in 1883, this Italianate with chamfered posts with columns, features scrollwork corner brackets, a bay, trefoil pendants, and a frieze accented by paired scrollwork brackets.
The next house is on the right.

35. Evergreen
 303 S. Long St.
 ANTEBELLUM
 This Greek Revival raised cottage was built in 1848. Later changes are of eclectic craftsman style with bungalow influence. (House has been raised up and down several times, and even truncated. The last major renovations were in 1910).
The next house is on the right.

36. White Fitts
 403 S. Long St.
 ANTEBELLUM
 The original portion of this antebellum cottage with Italianate additions was built in 1845. The original portion consisted of two rooms, separated by a large hallway and a detached kitchen. Notice the paired columns across the porch and the stained glass above the door.
The next house is on the right, corner of Long and Monroe Streets. Stop at the intersection to view, then turn left on Monroe.

40. Monroe County Courthouse
 301 S. Chestnut St.
 GREEK REVIVAL
 The Monroe County Courthouse, built in 1857, is an outstanding and sophisticated example of the Greek revival style in a public building. The courthouse is one of the oldest in Northeast Mississippi.
Turn left on Jefferson Street. The next house is on the left, across the intersection of Maple and Jefferson.

41. Griffin House
 107 E. Jefferson St.
 ANTEBELLUM
 This Greek revival, built in 1854, is Aberdeen's only example of an "I" house. The full width porch is an early 20th century addition.
Stop at the next corner. The next house is on the far left corner of the intersection. View it before turning right on Meridian Street.

42. Scuppernon
 301 S. Meridian St.
 ANTEBELLUM
 This Greek revival, built in 1842, was remodeled in the 1870s. Notice the delicate pierced bargeboard on the gables, the octagonal columns with bases and fluted molder caps, and the pierced spandrels. The paneled Italianate style door has a transom and sidelights of etched Bohemian glass.
Turn right on Meridian Street as previously instructed. Continue North through two 4-way stops. The next house is on the left, in the second block.

43. Adams French House
 118 N. Long St.
 ANTEBELLUM
 This Greek revival mansion was built in 1856. It features a beautifully rendered front elevation with a graceful two-story portico and coffered ceiling, four pairs of slender ionic columns and reflecting pilasters, sidelights flanking the formal entry and windows of the front elevation. Note the delicate iron railing of the three balconies at the second story windows and balcony door. These features attest to the sophisticated design of this extraordinary structure. The home was restored to the original design in 2007 following a devastating fire.
Turn left on Vine Street. Take the next left on James Street. Go two blocks. The next house is on the left. Continue viewing as you turn left on College Place.

46. Yesteryears
 401 Canal St.
 VICTORIAN
 Built in 1884, this eclectic house features Italianate and Gothic motifs.
The next house is on the left.

47. Eckford Pierce House
 405 Canal St.
 ANTEBELLUM
 This Greek revival with Italianate influence was built in 1855. The full-width front porch is supported by paired chamfered posts with heavily molded capitals and small corner brackets. Notice the paneled frieze with pendants below and the fluted pilasters. Turn left at the stop sign on Long Street. The next house is on the left, on the corner of Long and Canal.

48. John Farris Plant Home
 118 N. Long St.
 VICTORIAN
 Notice the straight-sided mansard roofed tower on the front facade on this Italianate/Eastlake style home built in 1882. It retains its original slate roof, decorated with hearts, diamonds, and Fleur-de-lis. A cistern was built on the roof to collect rainwater to pipe into the house. Three original outbuildings are the 1885 gazebo, smokehouse, and servants' cottage.
Stop at the stop sign. The next house is on the far right, on the corner of Commerce and Long Streets.

49. The Old Homestead
 503 W. Commerce St.
 ANTEBELLUM
 This Greek revival home with Gothic portico and Italianate elements was built in 1852. There are matching entrances on the north and east sides. At the rear of the home is a Gothic revival barn of antebellum date. Commerce Street, to the right, will take you back to the Magnolias. A turn to the left will take you downtown and to the Visitors Bureau.

Thank you for taking time to tour Historic Aberdeen. There are many sites to see here in Aberdeen. We hope you will enjoy your visit.

ARCHITECTURAL TERMS

PERIODS
ANTEBELLUM Approximately 1835-1865
VICTORIAN Approximately 1860-1895
TURN OF THE CENTURY 1896-1920

House of styles of each period
(Periods overlap as styles evolve slowly with changing tastes).

ANTEBELLUM STYLES
GREEK REVIVAL - Classical in the style of a Greek temple.
"I" HOUSE - Refers to room arrangement, two rooms wide with a hall between, one room deep.

ANTEBELLUM AND VICTORIAN STYLES
ITALIANATE - Usually two or three-story asymmetrical with a tower, tall arched windows, low pitched roof.
GOthic - Steeply pitched roof, usually with cross gables and decorative trim patterned after Gothic churches.

VICTORIAN STYLES
SINGLE STYLE - Usually of wood shingles with steep roof line and wide porches.
SECOND EMPIRE - Usually has a mansard roof and dormers.
EASTLAKE - Folk style with spindles and cutout trim.

VICTORIAN AND TURN OF THE CENTURY
QUEEN ANNE - Usually asymmetrical with one-story porch.
ECLECTIC - Of mixed stylistic elements...showing more than one style.

EARLY TWENTIETH CENTURY STYLES
COLONIAL REVIVAL - Similar to houses build during the pre-Revolutionary War period.
PRAIRIE - Four Square Style - Large substantial looking, usually with piers and square pillars.
TUDOR REVIVAL - Dark exposed timbers with stucco, usually of brick.

A

B

C

NEOCLASSICAL - Using elements from classical Greek architecture such as columns and pediments.
CRAFTSMAN - A more severe style, square with plain features, characteristics of the Arts and Crafts Era.
AIRPLANE BUNGALOW - A house laid out in the shape of an airplane, body flanked by wings.

ROOF LINE DESCRIPTIONS
HIPPED - Roof with four sloping sides.
MANSARD - Hipped roof with steep slope at the bottom.
GABLED - Pointed roof, triangular ends.
GAMBREL - Roof slopes steeply at bottom, less steeply at top.
DORMERS - Small roofed units interrupting the roof line usually with windows.
TURRETS, TOWERS - Tall structures with separate roof can be square, round, or multi-sided.
CUPOLA - Structure that looks like part of a tower set on the roof.
PEDIMENT - Area over columns or a bow window or door, often triangular.

VERGEBARD WITH CROSSBRACING, POST

VERGEBARD WITH NO CROSSBRACING, POST

STICK-STYLE BRACKET

TRANSOM - Window above door.
ENTABLATURE - Area between roof line and columns.
CORNICE - Top section entablature area immediately below roof.
FRIEZE - Area of an entablature below the cornice.
 **See Drawing below.

Enablature

cornice
frieze
architrave
column or pilaster

BALUSTRADE - Porch Railing.
PORTE-COCHERE - Covered area attached to house to drive under in a carriage or vehicle.
IMBRICATED - Made overlapping, as in shingles.

DESIGN TERMS
DENTICULATED - Decorated with small squares that look like teeth.

TREFOIL PENDANT

GREEK KEY PATTERN

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
 A list maintained by the U.S. Department of the Interior of places of historical significance. Being placed on this list protects the property from encroachment or damage by federally funded projects.